

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 DLOS-07 IO-14 /122 W

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R 021410Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4008

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNATO BRUSSELS 233

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

UNCLAS ATHENS 4206

EO 11652 NA

TAGS PFOR, PLOS, GR, TU

SUBJ: ATHENS PRESS SHIFTS TO MORE STRIDENT ANTI-TURK CAST

SUMMARY. ATHENS NEWS MEDIA MODERATION IN COVERAGE OF RELATIONS WITH TURKEY HAS DISAPPEARED LAST DAYS AS RADIO BROADCASTS AND NEWSPAPERS STRESS CORRECTNESS OF GREEK POSITION IN REJECTING TURKISH PROPOSALS AT BRUSSELS. TURKISH PROPOSALS ARE CHARACTERIZED AS CONSTITUTING VIOLATION OF LAUSANNE TREATY AND GENEVA CONVENTION OF 1958. AKROPOLIS EDITORIALIZES THAT GREEK-TURKISH FRIENDSHIP IS BREATHING LAST GASP. ALL ATHENS NEWSPAPERS REPUBLISH LONDON TIMES EDITORIAL JULY 1 WHICH CONCLUDED "GREEKS SHOULD HAVE LITTLE DIFFICULTY IN MAKING GOOD THEIR CASE IN INTERNATIONAL LAW..." END SUMMARY.

1. RADIO BROADCASTS JULY 1 AND 2 HAVE REPEATED ATHENS NEWS AGENCY BULLETING ITEM WHICH POINTED OUT THAT "DIPLOMATIC OBSERVERS" COMMENTING ON JUNE 29 STATEMENT OF PM ANDROUTSOPOULOS INDICATED LUCID CHARACTER OF GREEK ATTITUDE WHICH IS BASED ON INTERNATIONAL REALITY AND UNCLASSIFIED

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EXPERIENCE AND NOTED TURKISH DEMANDS UPSET INTERNATIONALLY

ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES.

ACCORDING TO ANA OBSERVERS DREW SPECIAL ATTENTION TO "PECULIAR NATURE" OF TURKISH PROPOSALS AS CONTAINED TEXT RECALLED "MATTERS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES RELATING TO MINORITIES ARE SETTLED BY LAUSANNE TREATY AND THOSE OF AEGEAN ARE INCLUDED WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF GENEVA CONVENTION OF 1958. THIS RAISES QUESTION WHETHER PROPOSED STRUCTURE CONSTITUTES VIOLATION OR OVERTHROW OF THOSE CONVENTIONS..."

2. IN HARDEST HITTING EDITORIAL TO APPEAR TO DATE IN ATHENS PRESS, AKROPOLIS ON JULY 2 WROTE THAT GREECE HAS DONE ALL POSSIBLE TO STRENGTHEN FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN TWO NATIONS WHILE TURKEY HAS DONE ALL IN HER POWER TO DISRUPT RELATIONS. AKROPOLIS ENUMERATED SERIES OF "UNFRIENDLY ACTS BY TURKEY"--TURKEY'S REFUSAL TO ENTER WORLD WAR II WHEN GREECE WAS ATTACKED BY AXIS AND TURKEY'S DECISION TO DO SO ONLY WHEN OUTCOME OF WAR HAD BEEN DECIDED AND GREECE DESTROYED; TURKEY'S INTERVENTION IN CYPRUS IN VIOLATION OF ALL MORAL LAW AND INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND HER OPPOSITION TO PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND BEHAVIOR TOWARD GREECE AS TOWARD AN IMPLACABLE ENEMY; ARREST AND MALTREATMENT OF GREEK FISHERMEN WHENEVER THEY INADVERTENTLY ENTERED TURKISH TERRITORIAL WATERS; VANDALISM AGAINST GREEKS AND THEIR PROPERTIES IN ISTANBUL AND IZMIR IN SEPTEMBER 1965; AND SUBSEQUENT PERSECUTION OF THOUSANDS OF GREEKS WHO HAD THUS BEEN COMPELLED TO LEAVE COUNTRY. AKROPOLIS CONTINUED THAT TURKISH GOVERNMENT IN RAISING ISSUE OF CONTINENTAL SHELF IN AEGEAN EXCEEDS ALL LIMITS OF PROVOCATION BUT SUCH CONDUCT IS UNDERSTANDABLE TO DISTRACT TURKISH PEOPLE'S ATTENTION FROM THEIR INTERNAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND TO AVOID ENVY AT GREECE'S HIGHER ECONOMIC, INTELLECTUAL AND CULTURAL PROGRESS. AKROPOLIS CONCLUDED "BUT UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE MUST NOT DECEIVE OURSELVES, GREEK-TURKISH FRIENDSHIP IS BREATHING ITS LAST. TURKEY'S ARBITRARY ATTITUDE WILL NOT SOLVE ANY PROBLEM. AND WHAT IS STILL MORE IMPORTANT IS THAT NATO'S COHERENCE IN SOUTHERN EUROPE WILL BE BROKEN. LET THE ALLIES PREVENT SUCH A DEVELOPMENT. IT MUST BE UNDERSTOOD, HOWEVER, THAT ANY PROVOCATION THREATENING OUR TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY...

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WILL NOT BE TOLERATED... TURKS WILL FACE GREECE'S SWIFT REACTION."

3. UNDER FRONTPAGE HEADLINES "GREECE WINS IN AEGEAN" AND "GREECE WILL WIN HERE CASE ON BASIS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW" ATHENS NEWSPAPERS REPRINT SEGMENTS OF LONDON TIMES EDITORIAL JULY 1 "OIL UNDER TROUBLED WATERS" AND GIVE SPECIAL PROMINENCE TO EDITORIAL'S LAST PARAGRAPH NOTING

THAT GREEKS SHOULD HAVE LITTLE DIFFICULTY IN MAKING GOOD
THEIR CASE IN INTERNATIONAL LAW BUT IN EQUITY TURKS HAVE
A NOT UNREASONABLE GRIEVANCE WHICH MERITS SOME RECONGITION.
(NOTE: GREEK LANGUAGE PRESS OMITTED SECOND HALF OF
SENTENCE REFERRING TO EQUITY FOR TURKS.)

4. COMMENT: GIVEN GOG CONTROL OF NEWS MEDIA IT IS SAFE
TO ASSUME INCREASED STRIDENCY IN ANTI-TURKISH REPORTAGE HAS
OFFICIAL SANCTION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, INTERNATIONAL LAW, RADIO COMMENTS, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATHENS04206
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740175-1123
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740782/aaaacsif.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUL 2002 by thomasv0>; APPROVED <17 JUL 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ATHENS PRESS SHIFTS TO MORE STRIDENT ANTI-TURK CAST SUMMARY. ATHENS NEWS MEDIA MODERATION IN COVERAGE OF
TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, GR, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005